

Tri-borough Local Safeguarding Children Board Newsletter

25th April 2014

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this April edition of the LSCB Newsletter. The LSCB is determined to improve communications with you during 2014 and has asked the Communications Team to assist us. So look out for an 'improved' format next time, with more clear information too!

UPDATE FROM WORK WITH VOLUNTARY SECTOR

SAVE THE DATE - **15 May 2014**

Our commitment to promoting strong links with the voluntary and faith sector sees the LSCB hosting a joint safeguarding event for the voluntary and statutory sectors on 15 May 2014 at Kensington Great Hall. Details can be found on the LSCB website. [You can book](#)

Children and Young People

Children's Forum:

There has been some further collaborative work with the Epic Children's Forum (RBKC) who have now produced an e-poster, jingle and video clip to promote the Safety Tips they had created previously. The video clip which can be viewed at:

<http://www.epiccc.org.uk/children-and-youth-voice>.

Surveys:

A survey of young people is scheduled to be distributed during May and findings reported to the July LSCB Board meeting.

The online survey intends to ascertain how young people's views are currently being incorporated into safeguarding practice. The target sample is 3 secondary schools per borough (an all girls' school, an all boys' school and a mixed-sexed school), with 25 completed surveys per school, totalling at 225

**Multi-Agency
Joint
Investigation
Training**

completed surveys overall.
The project will complement the LSCB e-learning project.

Modular programme launched in April 2014

An in-house Children's Services Joint Investigation programme has been launched this month to ensure all professionals involved in safeguarding have the knowledge and skills they need to plan and carry out an effective joint investigation in child protection.

The programme consists of five modules over four and a half days in total and can be viewed on the LSCB website.

**Safeguarding
Children in
Education and
Safer Recruitment**

Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) DFE April 2014 was published on 3rd April 2014; this is the statutory guidance from the Department for Education issued under Section 175, Education Act 2002, the Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2010 as amended by SI 2012/2962 and the Education (Non-Maintained Special Schools) (England) Regulations 2011. Schools and colleges must have regard to it when carrying out their duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The document came into effect on the date of publication

The first part of KCSIE includes links to sources of information and best practice in relation to specific safeguarding issues. Further parts outline specific duties for governing bodies or proprietors, school leaders and the designated safeguarding lead concerning day-to-day practice and the recruitment of staff. The updated guidance reflects new processes for criminal record and barred list checks following implementation of the Protections of Freedoms Act 2012 and, in response to representations made in the consultation, includes guidance on the take up of professional and character references. The final section brings in *Allegations of abuse against teachers 2012*. This advice was published separately but has been brought back into the document for ease of reference for schools and colleges.

The Tri-Borough Local Safeguarding Board Safer

Recruitment training programme is being updated to reflect these changes.

Private Fostering

At LSCB meeting of 15th April the Board was informed that there may be more private fostering arrangements, not yet identified, despite the efforts to identify them so far. Numbers appear to be small.

Housing Reform

The LSCB has had some success in holding the three Housing Departments to account following the welfare reforms. B&B is now being used in very exceptional circumstances. And, despite the pressures, numbers are low. Children's Services are looking to ensure that there is safe practice in respect of mobile families.

Section 11 Audits

LSCB continues to scrutinise the safeguarding practice of individual agencies and services. There are detailed plans to promote further work in the voluntary sector and within schools.

LSCB members have been busy updating the terms of reference for the LSCB and its subgroups. This will ensure that following Working Together 2013 the LSCB is in a strong position to promote high quality safeguarding arrangements across all agencies

Protocols for coordinated working with other strategic bodies are also in development. These cover how the LSCB will work with the Health and Well-being Boards (HWBB) in each borough and also with the Children's Trusts.

In addition a protocol/memorandum of understanding about how the LSCB and the Adult Safeguarding Board work together will be published at the end of May on the LSCB Website.

We are updating our progress on the 2013/14 LSCB Business Plan priorities. This is part of our ambitious work on a wider two-year plan for 2014/16 which will

Other Key Safeguarding News

Governance arrangements

Protocols

LSCB and Adult Safeguarding Board

LSCB Business

Plan

ensure continuous improvement.

LSCB annual report

Tri-borough LSCB annual report for 2013/14 will be presented to the Board Meeting in July. All agencies are contributing their detailed views on how they have contributed to the LSCB priorities and made a difference to the safeguarding outcomes of local children.

New Short Life Working Groups and Standing Group

New Short Life Working Groups being developed include a focus on:

- Domestic Violence
- E safety
- Standing group on FGM

These will report to the LSCB during 2014

LSCB

For any more information on the key messages, please contact Iwona Puszczewicz-Moreno@lbhf.gov.uk